REMARKS

In the present Office Action, claims 1-24 were pending before the Office. Of these, claims 1, 11, 21, and 22 were the only independent claims.

Claims 1-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Claim 25 is hereby added. No claims are hereby amended, canceled, or withdrawn. No new matter has been added.

A.   CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. For at least the reasons set forth herein, Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Without waiving the previous arguments regarding patent eligibility based on the feature "providing fewer than n compress circuts," Applicants respectfully submit that the present Office Action is incomplete.

At page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner contends that:

> Claims 1-24 cite (sic) a method and apparatus
> for determining the interval of which the sum
> of two numbers is resided (sic) in accordance
> with a mathematical algorithm. However,
> claims 1-24 merely disclose steps/components
> for determining the interval of which the sum
> of two numbers is resided (sic) without
> further disclosing a practical/physical
> application. Further, the claims appear to
> preempt every substantial practical
> application of the idea embodied by the
> claims. Therefore, claims 1-24 are directed
> to non-statutory subject matter.

Applicants traverse these contentions specifically noting the amendments to independent claims 1, 11, 21, and 22

properly made in a previous amendment, but never apparently considered by the Examiner.

37 CFR 1.104(b) instructs that "[t]he examiner's action will be complete as to all matters." However, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's action fails to offer any response as to (1) the amendments made to independent claims 1, 11, 21, and 22, and (2) the arguments made pointing out that these amendments clarify that the claims are in fact limited to a practical application and produce a tangible result. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's action is wholly incomplete. Further, Applicants submit that claims 1, 11, 21, and 22 clearly recite patent eligible subject matter.

Independent claim 1 was amended in a previous response to recite, inter alia:

> wherein a result of a floating point computation in a processor is determined based on the determination of which of the n intervals the sum of the two or more numbers resides.

Independent claim 11 was amended in a previous response to recite, inter alia:

> wherein a result of a floating point computation in a processor may be determined based on the sign check bits.

Independent claim 21 was amended in a previous response to recite, inter alia:

> wherein a result of a floating point computation in a processor is determined based on the determination of in which interval the sum resides.

Independent claim 22 was amended in a previous response to recite, inter alia:

> wherein a result of a floating point computation in a processor may be determined based on the sign check bits.

In each of the above features, a processor determination is explicitly recited. Applicants respectfully submit that a processor determination is clearly a practical application. That is, even if one assumes that the claims recite an abstract idea (which they do not), the explicit recitation of using that idea in making a processor determination is clearly a practical application of that idea.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 are respectfully requested.

B.   NEW CLAIM 25

The Examiner states at page 3 of the Office Action:

The examiner respectfully submits that feature (sic) of having fewer than n compress circuits due to less expressive (sic) and consume less real estate in the device is not directly seen or cited (sic) in the claim. The applicant is suggested further (sic) include this feature into the claims.

According, only in the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicants have added new dependent claim 25 (dependent on independent claim 1) which recites:

wherein the providing results in less physical space used than if n compress circuits were provided.

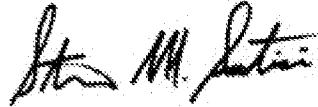Therefore, it is submitted that claim 25 is in condition for allowance.

C.   CONCLUSION

Since Applicants assert that all the independent claims are in condition for allowance and all remaining claims properly depend from the independent claims, Applicants assert that all claims are allowable.

Applicants do not believe a request for extension of time is required but if it is, please accept this paragraph as a request for an extension of time and authorization to charge the requisite extension fee to Deposit Account No. 04-1696. Applicants do not believe any additional fees are due regarding this amendment. However, if any additional fees are required, please charge Deposit Account No. 04-1696.

Respectfully Submitted,

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